Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace page 2, lines 33-34 with the following:

d. purifying the modified antibody-maytansinoid conjugate by ion exchange chromatography or with ~~SP-Sepharose Fast Flow~~SP SEPHAROSE FAST FLOW®.

Please replace page 5, line 29 through page 6, line 2 with the following:

The ceramic hydroxyapatite column (~~Macro-Prep~~MACRO-PREP® Ceramic Hyroxyapatite, Type I from Bio-Rad Laboratories) efficiently reduces the amounts of product aggregate, DMA and unreacted DM1 from the conjugated antibody product. It is also possible to use ion exchange liquid chromatography media to achieve the same objectives. Ion exchange chromatography media are cation exchangers (e.g., ~~SP-Sepharose Fast Flow~~SP-SEPHAROSE FAST FLOW® and ~~CM-Sepharose Fast Flow~~CM-SEPHAROSE FAST FLOW®, both from Amersham Pharmacia Biotech) or anion exchangers (e.g., ~~Q-Sepharose Fast Flow~~Q-SEPHAROSE FAST FLOW® from Amersham Pharmacia Biotech, ~~Macro-Prep~~MACRO-PREP® DEAE Support from Bio-Rad Laboratories).

Please replace page 13, line 30 through page 14, line 5 with the following:

An ~~SP-Sepharose Fast Flow~~SP-SEPHAROSE FAST FLOW® fast flow column (from Amersham Pharmacia Biotech) was equilibrated with a 30 mM Phosphate buffer at pH 6.5. Unpurified conjugation reaction mixture was loaded onto the column at a load ratio of 15 mg/mL of resin. After loading, the column was washed with equilibration buffer and then eluted with a 30 mM sodium Phosphate buffer, pH 6.5 containing 70 mM Sodium Chloride (NaCl). A non-bound, eluate, and eluate tail fraction was collected. All fractions, including the load material, were assayed using a Size-Exclusion Chromatography (SEC-HPLC) method for determining aggregate content. The unpurified load material had an aggregate content of 2.3%. The eluate fraction contained a product peak and had an aggregate content of 1.77%.

Abstract

Please replace the abstract with the abstract provided on a separate sheet herein.